മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നീലകണ്ഠമേനോൻ —അറിയില്ല.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I hope nobody is compelled to go there and play.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. വള്ളോൻ.—കളിനടന്ന തിയ്യതി അറിയാം; പക്ഷേ മാസം നിശ്ചയമില്ല. ഒരു ഫുട്ബാൾ കളി നടന്നിട്ടുള്ളതായി അറിവുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നീലകണ്ഠമേനോൻ.— തീയ്യതിയും സമയവും പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അന്വേഷിച്ചു നോക്കാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എം. ഇബ്രാഹിം.— പോലീസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നു കൈക്കൂലിയുടെ വേണ്ടി വല്ലവരേയും ശിക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I do not know how that arises here.

President.—It does not arise.

Ernakulam General Hospital—Patients from Mattancheri.

273. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) if they maintain a register of cases treated at the out-patient and the in-patient departments of the General Hospital, Ernakulam;

(b) if so, will they be pleased to say how many cases from Mattancheri have been treated during the last year at each of the departments?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) Yes.

(b) In-patients: 158; The out-patient Nominal Register does not record the place of residence of the patients.

Male Teachers in Girls' Schools.

274. Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many male teachers still continue, to be employed in the Sirkar Girls' Schools; and

(b) what subjects the male teachers teach?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) 15 in the Sirkar Girls' High Schools.

(b) Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Natural Science, Geography.

Unemployment in Cochin.

275. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—With reference to question No. 21, dated 31st July 1933, regarding Industrial Development, will the Government be pleased to give in full the grounds on which they based their answer (a) No;

and the answer to the question, 'Are there not instances where non-official bills have been voted'?

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Mr. I. N. Menon.—Unemployment in Cochin is partly among the educated and partly among the artisan classes. Apart from the international ramifications which this problem of unemployment has, itseems, that the working men are not so much unemployed as under-employed and under-paid. It is doubtful if the remedy suggested touches even the fringe of the problem. The prices of the staple products, paddy and cocoanuts, have greatly fallen due to foreign competition and the closing of foreign markets, and the farmers have been forced by the extremely small margin of their profits to neglect production. Neither of these industries is such as can be owned and managed by Government. Then there is the possibility of starting new factory industries. Even here insurmountable difficulties have to be met. The Chief factory industries are connected with cocoanuts andrice and as Government by stepping into the place of private capitalists cannot hope to earn any profits or indeed to work them except at a loss, it will be unwise to invest money raised by taxation on ventures of such doubtful advantage.

With regard to the colossal unemployment among the educated classes the only line of improvement lies in an overhauling of the system of education with a view to bringing it into touch with needs of life. An all-round industrial development with a revolutionary 'go' about it will not thus be a satisfactory means to combat unemployment.

Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know what are the figures of unemployment here?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—We have not so far got any agency for collecting the exactfigures. Attempts are being made to collect that in certain villages.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The answer here given is "Apart from the international ramifications which this problem of unemployment, has itseems, that the working men are not so much unemployed as under-employed and under-paid." For making this assertion someinvestigation has to be made.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I have made investigations, though it was not possible tocollect statistics, from people who are agriculturists, artisansand others. The information they gave me was that due to fallin prices people could not be given the same amount of wages as they were being given before. So I said that they were under-employed and under-paid. In the absence of any specific machinery, I could not do anything more.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What was the information from the Census?

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Mr. I. N. Menon.—I am sorry that it did not strike me.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know exactly what the Hon-ble Member for Education means by under-employed ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Persons who would have work from 7 a. m. to 7 p. m. in the normal course find that they have not enough work to keep them engaged for the same working day, but they may find work for two or three hours. That is what I call under-employed.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—That is in a way unemployed.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is under-employed since they get two hours' work.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have the Government any statis-tics about the under-payment here ?

Mr. I. N. Menon —By under-payment I mean the rapid fall that has been visible in some trades, if we compare the wages about 10 years ago and now.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—I was asking for the statistics.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—In the absence of a separate agency to collect these statistics, I am not in a position to say that.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In the case of large scale industries controlled or owned by Government won't more hands get work?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is likely to be wasteful. Where ten men are employed usually in private enterprises, Government may employ a dozen So eventually it might be a loss to the community as a whole.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—That is not an answer to my ques-tion. My question is whether more people will get work if the industries are controlled by the State.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—If it is a business-like Government the results may be otherwise.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Are the Government aware of any system which by industrialisation have given more wages?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Sir, it is a very large question

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—You have answered it very largely.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The question being also fairly large I had to give an answer in two paragraphs.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.— According to the information of the Government, have wages fallen in proportion to the fall in prices?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is not possible for me to answer in the absence of any information about the prices for the last so many years for the different commodities and such other data. It is not possible to give a general comparison.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Without knowing that proportion how can the Government think that the workmen are under-paid?

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Mr. I. N. Menon —I said in the sense in which it was meant. Where there used to be paid Rs. 2 to an artisan, at present he is getting less.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim—Are the Government aware that the workers are gettingeven 2 as. by working for 12 hours?

Mr. I. N. Menon. – It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Then with regard to the unemployment among the educated men it is said in paragraph 2 that the only line of improvement lies in an overhauling of the system of eduction. Is the Government doing anything in that direction?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—As the Hon'ble Member, Sir, is himself aware certain proposals have been made in the survey committee report for giving a vocational turn in the secondary classes. Proposalsare also being considered by the Government for organising a system of industrial education. It is hoped that this will be in the right direction.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.— May I know whether under the system of State industrialisation labourers in general won't get more wages?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There again social, Sir, it is a question of justice. The private individuals will be looking after their own interests and may try to keep down wages, whereas if it is a Government organisation it may have a scheduled rate.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Are you aware that in countries where there are State industries, the labourers had been getting, as a matter of fact, more wages?

Mr. I. N Menon.—It is likely.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Provided the business can stand the strain.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—With reference to the fall in prices, why not the Government enforce protective tariffs as is done by other civilized countries?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—We have not got the right to insist on any tariff walls forourselves. I speak subject to correction. I think we are not at liberty to raise or lower the tariff.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What about the Ceylon Copra?

Mr. I. N. Menon. – I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Then about the difficulties of land and land produce. May I know what is the harm to bring in state ownership of land?

President.—It opens up a whole field of political sphere. The Hon'ble Member for Education may not be able to answer that question off-hand.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim. -With reference to the insurmountable difficulties that the Hon'ble Member for Education sees in

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starting factory industries, how can you start then the potteries and the tanneries ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The result has shown what would be the fate if it is started without the necessary information.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—So do you admit that you made a mistake ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It has already been corrected.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Do you view this problem as a business-like proposition alone ? Do you consider the proposition in its bearing to the amelioration of the workers without any capital who form the majority of our population?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is possible to have a suicidal way of alleviating misery which is not done in a business-like fashion.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What is the method Government have in stock to ameliorate the condition of the majority?

Mr. I N. Menon.—If the Hon'ble Member will turn to a question answered in the previous meeting Government have said there what they are trying to do to organise methods of relief.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Am I to understand that the Government are not in a position to say the exact way in which they are going to ameliorate the condition of the poor?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—That is why we are conducting an economic survey.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—About the educated unemployment, Sir, may I know whether greater expenditure on the technical branches and large State schemes to absorb them be of any use to reduce the educated unemployment?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Sir, the problem is so wide a one that I am not in a position off-hand to answer either 'Yes' or 'No'. I have given answer there that the only line of improvement that suggests itself to me is to reorganise our educational system in such a way as to respond to the actual needs of the people.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—With reference to the last paragraph, in the light of your 'Yes', what was the point in your advising the non-officials to bring in bills themselves?

Mr. I. N. Menon. – I am not aware of any bills having been asked to be introduced.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In the answer under reference you had advised the non-officials to bring in bills instead of raising these issues through questions and all that. If the bills are being vetoed, what is the earthly use of our bringing them in the Council?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Sir, it may be an error of memory, but I am not aware of having initiated any such thing.

Motor boats—levy of fees on.

276. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.— With reference to Question 25, dated 21st July 1933, regarding levies on

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